

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 AID-05

OMB-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 ARA-06 OIC-02 CU-02 /103 W  
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P R 131526Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3650

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USEC BRUSSELS 1829

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 7979

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, SP

SUBJ: UGT-SPONSORED INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION VISITS TO SPAIN TO  
INTENSIFY

SUMMARY: FORTHCOMING UGT-SPONSORED VISITS TO SPAIN BY FOUR  
INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION DELEGATIONS ARE DESIGNED TO DEMON-  
STRATE INCREASED EUROPEAN SUPPORT FOR ILLEGAL SOCIALIST UGT  
TRADE UNION AND TO STRENGTHEN THE UGT INTERNATIONALLY AND  
INTERNALLY. END SUMMARY.

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1. PABLO CASTEEANO, A PRINCIPAL LEADER OF ILLEGAL DEMOCRATIC

UGT (SOCIALIST) TRADE UNION WHO RECENTLY RETURNED TO SPAIN AFTER ONE MONTH US LEADER GRANT VISIT FOLLOWED BY ATTENDANCE AS UGT DELEGATE AT MEXICO CITY ICFTU CONVENTION, TOLD LABATT UGT IS EXPECTING FOUR MAJOR VISITS TO SPAIN WITHIN NEXT TWO MONTHS FROM FOREIGN AND INTERNATIONAL FREE TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS, I.E., (A) MID-NOVEMBER VISIT BY IFCCTE (INTL FEDERATION OF COMMERCIAL, CLERICAL & TECHNICAL EMPLOYEES) SECGEN HERIBERT MEIER; (B) DECEMBER VISIT BY A DUTCH NVV SOCIALIST TRADE UNION DELEGATION; (C) JANUARY VISIT BY PTI (POSTAL, TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE INTERNATIONAL) SECGEN STEFAN NEDZYNSKI; AND (D) JANUARY VISIT BY A FIVE-MAN ETUC (EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION) DELEGATION LED BY ETUC PRESIDENT AND GERMAN DGB LEADER VETTER, AND INCLUDING ETUC SECRETARIES KULAKOWSKI AND CARLSSON.

2. THESE VISITING FOREIGN TRADE UNIONISTS WILL OSTENSIBLY COME TO SPAIN AS TOURISTS BUT WILL IN FACT HAVE EXTENSIVE CONTACTS WITH SPANISH SOCIALIST UGT LEADERS. CASTELLANO SAID THE ALLEGATIONS WILL NOT HAVE CONTACTS WITH OTHER CLANDESTINE SPANISH TRADE UNIONS, SUCH AS COMMUNIST-DOMINATED WORKERS COMMISSION OF MODERATE

CATHOLIC-ORIENTED USO, NOR WILL THEY HAVE ANY CONTACTS WITH GOVT-CONTROLLED SPANISH SYNDICAL ORGANIZATION (SSO). UGT HAS STIPULATED VISITS BE STRICTLY DESIGNED BOLSTER ITS PRESTIGE AND THAT UGT BE GIVEN COMPLETE FREEDOM TO ORGANIZE PROGRAMS. (UGT IS AN AFFILIATE OF VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL TRADE SECRETARIATS INCLUDING IFCCTE, PTI AND IMF, AS WELL AS A CHARTER MEMBER OF ETUC AND ICFTU.) CASTELLANO SAID THE VISITS WOULD BE VERY SIMILAR TO JUNE VISIT BY DANISH LO LEADER THOMAS NIELSEN AND FOUR OTHER DANISH UNION LEADERS OR TO THE VISITS MADE TO SPAIN ONE YEAR AGO BY IMF SECGEN HERMAN REBHAN AND BY ICFTU SECGEN OTTO KERSTEN. CASTELLANO HIMSELF IS TRAVELING TO BRUSSELS TODAY TO LAY GROUNDWORK FOR VETTER'S IMPORTANT ETUC VISIT AND ALSO IN RESPONSE TO ICFTU REQUEST THAT HE ATTEND A BRUSSELS MEETING TO DISCUSS INTENSIFICATION OF ICFTU ACTIVITIES RE SPAIN.

3. CASTELLANO SAID FORTHCOMING VISITS ARE PART OF A STEPPED UP PROGRAM TO DEMONSTRATE FOREIGN WESTERN EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFIDENTIAL

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SUPPORT FOR SPANISH UGT AT THIS CRITICAL MOMENT. HE SAID UGT IS PARTICULARLY SATISFIED WITH THE SUPPORT IT IS RECEIVING FROM VARIOUS EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CENTERS, PARTICULARLY FROM WEST GERMAN DGB AND IG METALL AND FROM SCANDINAVIANS AND OTHER NORTHERN EUROPEANS. UGT IS DISAPPOINTED, HOWEVER, BY ONLY LUKEWARM SUPPORT IT HAD FROM BRITISH TUC. THERE IS NO PLAN FOR BRITISH TUC DELEGATION TO VISIT SPAIN, EVEN THOUGH UGT HAS EXTENDED INVITATIONS. CASTELLANO ATTRIBUTED BRITISH TUC'S

TEPID SUPPORT TO AN ALLEGED FOOTHOLD WHICH RIVAL COMMUNIST-DOMINATED WORKERS COMMISSIONS' LEADERSHIP HAS SECURED WITH TUC THROUGH CONTACTS WITH JACK JONES AND OTHER LEFTIST TUC LEADERS. HE STATED WORKERS COMMISSIONS' SUCCESS IN BRITAIN HAS ALSO BEEN PARTIALLY DUE TO FACT THAT FOR PAST YEAR WORKERS COMMISSIONS HAVE MAINTAINED AN OFFICE IN LONDON ESTABLISHED BY SPANISH COMMUNISTS (PCE). TUC HAS UNFORTUNATELY SUCCEumbed TO WORKERS COMMISSIONS' ARGUMENT THAT IT IS THEY WHO REALLY REPRESENT SPANISH WORKING CLASS.

4. COMMENT: UGT WILL HOLD ITS NEXT CONGRESS IN FRANCE IN SUMMER OF 1976 AND ITS PRESENT LEADERSHIP WISHES TO TANGIBLY DEMONSTRATE INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT TO SPANISH WORKERS. ALSO, THERE IS COMPETITION FOR INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION AND SUPPORT WITHIN THE POLITICAL PARTY, SOCIALIST PSOE, AS WELL AS A MARKED TREND TOWARDS GREATER SEPARATION BETWEEN PARTY AND TRADE UNION. (THUS FELIPE GONZALEZ LEFT UGT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TWO YEARS AGO TO CONCENTRATE ON PSOE AFFAIRS AND TODAY IS UNDISPUTED LEADER OF PSOE, WHILE CASTELLANO AND SOME OTHER TOP UGT LEADERS RECENTLY RESIGNED THEIR PSOE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE POSTS AND ARE NOW WORKING EXCLUSIVELY ON UGT AFFAIRS.) RECENTLY PSOE AND FELIPE GONZALEZ HAVE BEEN RECEIVING MOST OF INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION DUE TO GONZALEZ' MEETINGS EARLIER THIS YEAR WITH SUCH EUROPEAN SOCIALIST LEADERS AS GERMANY'S WILLY BRANDT, FRANCE'S MITTERAND, AND SWEDEN'S OLAF PALME. UGT HOPE IS TO SHARE INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION AND SUPPORT WHICH HAS BEEN GOING MOSTLY TO GONZALEZ AND PSOE, AND TO STRENGTHEN UGT AND ITS LEADERSHIP IN THE PROCESS.  
STABLER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, TRADE VISITS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Event:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <02 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006